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BLABY RURAL DISTRICT

Leicestershire



ANNUAL REPORT of the Medical Officer of Health and the Chief Public Health Inspector

1966

RURAL DISTRICT OF BLABY

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

ANDREW C. ROSS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

together with the

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

JOHN J. GALSWORTHY, F.A.P.H.I., F.R.S.H.

for the

YEAR 1966

BLABY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Committee
(As Appointed May 1966)

Mrs. B. L. Bown - Chairman
Mr. A. W. Capers - Vice-Chairman

Miss F. F. Baldock	Mr. G. H. Marriott
Mrs. M. Wells	Mr. J. F. Moore
Mr. W. R. Carter	Mr. W. S. Page
Mr. A. G. Cosby	Mr. H. Pepper
Mr. J. W. Herrick	Mr. E. Rushworth
Mr. D. M. J. Hill	Mr. Harold Wells
Mr. G. N. Jordan	Mr. Horace Wells
Mr. T. F. Leavesley	Mr. G. E. White
Mr. W. J. Leedham	Mr. H. Yates

Mr. D. J. Williams - Chairman of the Council (1966-67)

Public Health Department

Officers and Staff

Medical Officer of Health:

Andrew C. Ross, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

John J. Galsworthy, F.A.P.H.I., F.R.S.H.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

A. J. Slipp, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

R. R. Blaylock, M.A.P.H.I.

P. J. Henze, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

F. Richards, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

G. D. England, M.A.P.H.I.

Pupil Public Health Inspector:

R. Fisk

Authorised Meat Inspector:

F. J. Pope (Appointed 13th February, 1967)

Secretary: Miss J. Mills

Clerk/Typist: Mrs. L. Bettoney

Junior Clerk: Miss G. Cole

General Assistant: R. C. Liggins

Rodent Operator: J. Pearson

To the Chairman and Members of
Blaby Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for 1966.

The vital statistics are given in detail in the report. The Birth Rate was above the national figure: the Death Rate was below that of the Country as a whole: the Infant Mortality Rate was 14 per 1,000 live births, a figure below that given for England and Wales.

Infectious disease, apart from a high incidence of measles, did not present any outstanding features.

As in previous years a great deal of time was spent visiting the aged and the chronic sick. On the welfare side much work was done by neighbours, relatives and the numerous voluntary organisations. It is apparent that each year sees further developments in the help and support given to the elderly.

Finally, I must thank Mr. Galsworthy and the staff of the Public Health Department for their help during the year and also the Public Health Committee for their support and assistance.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

Medical Officer of Health.

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Blaby Rural District

Summary of Principal Statistics for Years 1961-1966

	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>
Population	56,650	58,490	60,380	62,980	66,550	60,620
Birth Rate (a)	22.2	22.6	21.5	23.0	20.6	22.8
Corrected Birth Rate (a)	-	-	-	-	-	22.7
Still Birth Rate (b)	20.1	17.7	19.5	13.5	16.4	16.3
Infant Mortality Rate (c)	13.4	6.0	16.8	15.1	13.1	13.7
Neonatal Mortality Rate (c)	11.0	4.5	13.8	10.3	11.6	12.3
Crude Death Rate (a)	11.4	10.6	10.4	8.6	9.3	10.2
Corrected Death Rate (a)	-	-	-	-	-	9.3

(a) per thousand population

(b) per thousand total births

(c) per thousand live births

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

Live Births

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	717	634	1,351
Illegitimate	19	14	33
Totals	736	648	1,384

BIRTH RATE

22.8 per 1,000 estimated population

1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
16.4	19.3	19.4	17.2	16.7	14.9	14.8	14.3	13.5	13.0	14.9
1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
14.3	17.3	17.5	20.7	22.0	22.2	22.6	21.5	23.0	20.6	22.8

There were 1,384 live births against the corresponding figure of 1,373 for 1965.

The Live Birth Rate for England and Wales in 1966 per 1,000 population was 17.7.

DEATHS

Deaths from all causes	Males	Females	Total
	298	320	618

CRUDE DEATH RATE

10.2 per 1,000 estimated population

1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
9.5	10.9	10.2	9.2	9.9	9.5	10.0	8.5	10.6	10.9	12.8
1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
10.7	11.8	11.8	10.8	10.6	11.4	10.6	10.4	8.6	9.3	10.2

The Crude Death Rate for England and Wales was 10.2 per 1,000 of home population.

The commonest causes of death were:-

	1963	1964	1965	1966
1) Cancer	103	109	124	111
2) Diseases of the heart and circulation	226	194	217	226
3) Vascular lesions of the nervous system	95	79	83	91

Cancer of the lung and bronchus accounted for 29 deaths - 26 males and 3 females.

There were 14 deaths attributable to motor vehicle accidents as compared with 7 in 1965.

CANCER MORTALITY RATE

The figure for 1966 was 1.8 per 1,000 of population. There were 111 deaths from cancer in a population of 60,620.

Cancer Mortality Rate (all forms) taken in triennial periods

The following table shows the cancer mortality rate since the year 1934. The rate is given as an average for triennial periods.

1934 - 36	.....	1.4	1952 - 54	.....	1.6
1937 - 39	.....	1.4	1955 - 57	.....	1.5
1940 - 42	.....	1.4	1958 - 60	.....	1.7
1943 - 45	.....	1.6	1961 - 63	.....	1.8
1946 - 48	.....	1.6	1964 - 66	.....	1.8
1949 - 51	.....	1.8			

Infant Deaths (under 1 year of age)

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	13	4	17
Illegitimate	2	0	2
Totals	15	4	19

Infant Mortality Rate

The Infant Mortality Rate for 1966 is 13.7 per 1,000 live births. The causes of death of the nineteen infants that died are as follows:-

Causes of Infant Deaths Under 1 Year

Pneumonia	-	1
Congenital Malformations	-	3
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	-	12
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	-	1
Gastritis and Enteritis	-	2

The following table shows the Infant Death Rate from 1945 to 1966.

1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
36	34	43	27	29	29	27	25	26	25	15
1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
25	16	19	21	16	13	6	17	15	13	14

The Infant Mortality Rate for 1966 for England and Wales is 18.9 per 1,000 live births, and is the lowest figure ever recorded in this Country.

Infant Deaths (under 4 weeks of age)

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	12	4	16
Illegitimate	1	0	1
Totals	13	4	17

Neonatal Death Rate

12.3 per 1,000 live births

Still Births

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	12	11	23
Illegitimate	0	0	0
Totals	12	11	23

Still Birth Rate

The Still Birth Rate is 16.3 per 1,000 live and still births.
The table below gives the Still Birth Rates from 1956 to 1966.

1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
10	14	26	18	18	20	18	20	13	16	16

Still Birth Rate England and Wales - 15.3 per 1,000 births
(live and still)

Increase of Live Births over Deaths

1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
243	360	342	306	265	227	187	228	114	82	82

1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
43	226	255	467	578	616	704	675	907	754	766

The causes of death at different periods of life for the year 19 of deaths given for each disease for all ages. The highest total for a

CAUSE OF DEATH	Total All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 week and und 1 year
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	5	-	-
Tuberculosis, Other	1	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	1	-	-
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	3	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	13	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	29	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	16	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	2	-	-
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	51	-	-
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	6	-	-
Diabetes	4	-	-
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	91	-	-
Coronary Disease, Angina	92	-	-
Hypertension with Heart Disease	11	-	-
Other Heart Disease	96	-	-
Other Circulatory Disease	27	-	-
Influenza	2	-	-
Pneumonia	20	1	-
Bronchitis	29	-	-
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	4	-	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	4	-	-
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	6	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	-	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	3	-	-
Congenital Malformations	5	3	-
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	64	12	-
Motor Vehicle Accidents	14	-	-
All Other Accidents	11	-	-
Suicide	6	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	618	17	2

shown in the table below. You will see there is a total number
es in Blaby Rural District is at the ages of 75 years and over.

AGE IN YEARS							
5 -	15 -	25 -	35 -	45 -	55 -	65 -	75 and over
-	-	-	-	4	1	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-
-	-	-	-	-	2	5	6
-	-	-	-	3	13	12	1
-	-	-	1	4	2	4	5
-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
1	1	1	3	7	10	14	13
-	1	-	-	1	3	1	-
-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1
-	-	-	1	3	10	28	49
-	-	1	4	7	23	30	27
-	-	-	-	1	-	6	4
-	-	-	1	3	11	10	71
-	-	-	-	-	2	7	18
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
-	-	-	-	1	3	4	11
-	-	-	1	1	4	8	14
-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1
-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
-	-	-	2	2	12	10	26
1	8	1	-	-	1	1	1
-	-	1	-	1	-	1	8
-	-	2	1	2	-	1	-
2	10	6	15	41	105	146	269

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Total number of cases of Infectious Diseases
notified during the year 1966

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE	Number of Cases Notified at Ages								
	At all ages	Under 1 Year	1 - 4 Yrs.	5 - 14 Yrs.	15 - 24 Yrs.	25 - 44 Yrs.	45 - 64 Yrs.	65 & Upw- ards	Age Unknown
Scarlet Fever	16	-	7	9	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	11	1	9	1	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	681	26	376	274	3	1	-	1	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	9	-	4	2	2	-	1	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Erysipelas	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	6	-	-	-	-	3	2	1	-
Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-

Notifications of Infectious Disease for the Year 1966

PARISH	Scar-let Fever	Whoop-ing Cough	Measles	Pneu-monia	Polio-myeli-tis	Dysen-tery	Puer-peral Pyrexia	Food Pois-oning	Erysip-elas	Pul-mon-ary T.B.	Other Forms T.B.	Menin-gitis	Total	
Aston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Flamville	-	4	51	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	55
Blaby	-	-	144	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	148
Braunstone	2	-	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25
Cosby	-	2	16	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	24
Countesthorpe	2	3	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Croft	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Elmesthorpe	-	-	24	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26
Enderby	1	-	188	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	202
Glenfield	10	-	8	-	-	6	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	17
Glen Parva	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Huncote	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Killby	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	114
Kirby Muxloe	-	-	112	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Leicester	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forest West	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lubbesthorpe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Potters	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Narborough	1	-	54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	55
Sapcote	-	-	4	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Sharnford	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Stoney Stanton	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thurlaston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25
Whetstone	-	-	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wigston Parva	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	16	11	681	-	-	9	1	1	2	6	2	-	729	-

Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)

Average per Year in Triennial Periods

	1943	1946	1949	1952	1955	1958	1961	1964
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1945	1948	1951	1954	1957	1960	1963	1966
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	97	70	44	34	15	33	12	19
Whooping Cough	74	131	164	111	87	29	19	13
Diphtheria	13	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	393	216	525	232	540	342	665	720
Pneumonia	20	27	30	46	46	7	4	-
Meningococcal Infection	5	4	0.7	0.7	-	2	0.7	0.3
Poliomyelitis	0.3	2	9	1.3	1.3	-	1	-
Dysentery	4	3	36	40	50	25	12	14
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0.7	-	0.3	0.3	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	2	0.7	1	3	3	3	1
Enteric Fever	1	0.7	0.3	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	5	10	2	3	12	1
Erysipelas	13	7	6	6	2.3	2	0.7	3

During this year there were 729 notifications of infectious disease. The figure for 1965 was 670.

Dysentery

Nine cases of dysentery were notified. The table below shows the fluctuation which occurs from year to year.

1956	-	115 cases
1957	-	4 cases
1958	-	40 cases
1959	-	13 cases
1960	-	11 cases
1961	-	9 cases
1962	-	17 cases
1963	-	9 cases
1964	-	5 cases
1965	-	29 cases
1966	-	9 cases

B.C.G. Vaccination

Selected groups of school children were again given B.C.G. vaccination. The number of children vaccinated was 443.

	No. of Pupils Eligible	No. of Consents	No. Skin Tested	No. Positive	No. Negative	No. Given B.C.G.
Enderby Brockington	261	258	235	32	196	196
Braunstone Winstanley	332	302	278	16	247	247

REPORT

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR

1966

BLABY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Department
Council Offices.
Narborough.

To the Chairman and Members of
Blaby Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

By statute the Medical Officer of Health is required to submit an Annual Report on the Health of the District and the Public Health Inspector to submit information on the work carried out principally in respect of the environmental circumstances.

Such report, although mainly statistical in form, should present a picture of the general circumstances, what has been accomplished during the year, improvements made and matters still requiring attention in the District.

In my report for 1966, I have presented some aspect of the work of the Public Health Department in somewhat more detail than usual primarily for the information of new members of the Council.

The District being a blend of urban and rural development, it naturally follows that the problems involved and the duties required cover a very wide field, and the Council can be one of the very few Rural Districts in the Country, dealing both with Smoke Control Areas under the Clean Air Act and Improvement Areas under the Housing Act.

In previous reports I have emphasized the demands of Meat Inspection involving much overtime and weekend inspection by the Public Health Inspectors to the detriment of their other duties, and although the pressure was maintained during the year under report, with a further increase in the number of animals slaughtered, the appointment of an Authorised Meat Inspector approved towards the end of the year will undoubtedly ease the situation.

As usual both the inspectorate and staff of the Department have carried out their duties effectively, and I wish to thank them all for their loyalty and assistance.

The co-operation of the other members of staff and Chief Officers has been most helpful and greatly appreciated, and finally I must thank the members of the Council for their support and continued interest.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,


John A. Edwards
Chief Public Health Inspector.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of District	32,212 acres
Number of Parishes	23
Estimated Population	60,620
Number of Occupied Dwellings	21,277

2. WATER SUPPLY

Mains Water Supplies

Every parish in the District is supplied with mains water by the statutory water authority - the Leicester Water Department.

Many complaints were received during the year from residents in several parishes throughout the district of the quality of the water supply. The complaints were principally of the discolouration of the water by a reddish-brown sediment which rendered the water somewhat objectionable for drinking purposes, and caused staining of white textiles dried in spin driers.

Such discolouration was due to suspended iron matter loosened by the water from the inside of the older iron distribution mains, and tended to be more prevalent towards the end of the service mains, particularly in houses in cul-de-sacs.

The Water Department gave immediate attention to such complaints by flushing out mains and service pipes, and in some cases by scraping out the mains.

Examination by the Public Health Laboratory Service of samples of water taken showed the water to be in every case bacteriologically satisfactory for drinking and dietetic purposes.

Examination of Piped Water Supplies

RAW WATER SAMPLES				TREATED AFTER GOING INTO SUPPLY			
BACTERIOLOGICAL		CHEMICAL		BACTERIOLOGICAL		CHEMICAL	
Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
6	3*	0	1*	13	3*	0	0

*These unsatisfactory results were again in respect of the supply of water to a large concrete products factory in the district.

This factory has its own private supply from a quarry source, the water being extremely hard. It is chemically softened, and that used for drinking and canteen purposes is further filtered and treated.

Samples of both the raw and treated water are taken regularly each month for check purposes and immediate action taken should a routine sample fail to satisfy the test.

The following is the general position of water supply in the District.

WATER SUPPLY FROM MAINS				WATER SUPPLY FROM WELLS		
No. of Houses		Estimated Population		No. of Houses		Estimated Population
21,212		60,420				
Direct Supply to House	By Stand-pipes	Direct Supply to House	By Stand-pipes			
21,198	14	60,370	50	65		200

3. SEWERAGE and DRAINAGE

Every village in the District is provided with main drainage, the sewage from the 19 seweried parishes being biologically treated at 12 properly constructed sewage disposal works.

Other than the laying of sewers on new housing estates, no extensions to public sewers were made during the year, but the Engineer and Surveyor reports the following improvements to sewage disposal works.

1. Extension to sewage disposal works serving Blaby, Whetstone and Enderby (St. Johns) completed
2. Extension to Countesthorpe sewage works and provision of new 15" outfall sewer in progress
3. Extension to sewage disposal works at Stoney Stanton in progress.

Progress of new schemes prepared by the Engineer's Department is as follows.

- 1 LEICESTER FOREST WEST - sewerage scheme awaiting Ministry Approval

2. NARBOROUGH - Coventry Road sewer extension to be commenced.
3. WHETSTONE - surface water outfall to be commenced.
4. CROFT - extensions to sewage disposal works - scheme to be submitted to Ministry.

Three small private sewage disposal plants and four cesspools were constructed during the year, and three cesspools abolished.

Cesspools cannot be considered as a really satisfactory method of dealing with the drainage from premises. In the majority of cases they are of inadequate capacity to take a three months flow and present difficulties in emptying. Although regulations require them to be water-tight, many of them admit sub-soil water and others are improperly provided with over-flows which discharge into and pollute nearby ditches.

Over the past several years a considerable number of cesspools have been abolished by sewerage extensions, but there still remain in some of the parishes sizeable groups of houses still relying on drainage to cesspools, and where further consideration should be given to the provision of main drainage, in particular

Aston Flamville - Burbage Road/Hinckley Road area

Countesthorpe - Leicester Road area (near Hospital Lane)

Whetstone - Cambridge Road area (near Cosby Parish boundary)

In connection with complaints received and drainage of premises 248 drains were examined, 319 obstructed drains cleared, 21 drainage systems colour tested and 10 smoke tested.

Pail Closets

Grants of half the cost of the work of conversion were paid in two cases for the replacement of pail closets by water closets under the provisions of Section 47, Public Health Act 1936, and a further two pails replaced by water closets during the improvement of houses by way of Improvement Grants under the Housing Acts.

In addition 10 pail closets were abolished in houses Closed or Demolished under the Housing Act, by Clearance Area or Individual Unfit procedure.

There are now only approximately 155 houses left in the District still provided with pail closet accommodation, of which 39 are scheduled for demolition under the Housing Act.

Of the remaining 116 houses, public sewers are available in the vicinity of 19 houses and action is being taken to have the pail closets replaced by water closets in these cases. Work in this connection is in progress at six of these houses.

No public sewers are available to the 97 isolated houses and farms drained to cesspools and still provided with pail closet accommodation. An endeavour is being made to persuade the owners of such premises to replace the pail closets by water closets with the inducement of grant aid, either under the Public Health Act or by Improvement Grant under the Housing Act.

4. REFUSE COLLECTION and DISPOSAL

The Cleansing Department which deals with the emptying of pail closets, cesspools and the collection and disposal of refuse is under the control of the Engineer and Surveyor.

The Council has undertaken to empty cesspools quarterly, and for this purpose and for the weekly emptying of pail closets a Karrer 800 gallon special wagon is used.

House refuse is collected weekly from every parish in the District using a fleet of thirteen Karrer Lorries, and disposed of by controlled tipping at the centrally situated tip at Thurlaston.

All vehicles are maintained and serviced at the Council's works and depot at Littlethorpe.

Litter bins are provided by the Council throughout the District, and in addition to the regular cleaning of the main roads by the Highway Authority, all other streets are regularly swept by 2 mechanical sweepers by the Council.

A special Sub-Committee has been set up by the Public Health Committee to investigate Refuse Collection and Disposal, and with the appointment by the Council of a Management Services Officer a study is to be made of Organisation. Work and Methods relating to this particular service.

5. INSPECTION OF PREMISES

The total number of complaints received and recorded in the Register during the year was 1,037, these included 401 relating to infestations by rats and mice and 100 of other insect pests. Defects or nuisances were dealt with at 1,047 premises by the Public Health Inspectors.

Notices

Preliminary or Informal

	Public Health	Housing
Outstanding on 1st January	57	2
Issued during year	353	57
Complied with during year	341	57
Outstanding 31st December	69	2
Total Informal Notices issued	410	
Total Informal Notices complied with	398	

Statutory or Formal

	Public Health	Housing
Outstanding on 1st January	1	3
Issued during year	1	37
Complied with during year	1	39
Outstanding 31st December	1	1

INSPECTIONS and REVISITSGeneral Environmental Health Inspection

Dwelling Houses	1,473
Council Houses	32
Rent Act	40
Noise Act	91
Infectious Disease	142
Food Poisoning	127
Verminous and/or dirty premises	28
Infested Premises	403
Drainage Work	1,038
Refuse bins	6
Accumulations	148
Refuse tips and open spaces	119
Rat infestation	321
Animal keeping	44
Piggeries	21
Water courses and ditches	177
Water supply	84
Swimming Pools	21
Smoke Control	905
Factories and Workplaces	159
Offices	22
Shops	128
Hairdressing Establishments	28
Schools	22
Caravans	394
Owners or contractors interviewed	133
Petroleum Storage	218
Unclassified	307
<u>Total</u>	<u>6,631</u>

Food Premises Inspection

Bakehouses	18
Dairies and milk supply	21
Butchers and Cooked Meat Shops	63
Fried Fish Shops	25
Icecream Premises and supply	216
Fish Shops	3
Greengrocers	14
Provision Shops	187
Canteens and Kitchens	93
Licensed Premises	82
Food Stores	17
Mobile Food Vans	68
Food Preparing Premises	16
Slaughterhouses	1,561
Market Gardens	8
<u>Total</u>	<u>2,425</u>
Total Number of Inspections	9,056
Visits by Rodent Operator	4,446
<u>Grand Total</u>	<u>13,502</u>

6. DISINFESTATION and DISINFECTION

Unclean or Verminous Premises

Pursuant to complaints and information received 28 visits were made to unclean premises. Evidence of bug infestation was found in one case and disinfection carried out.

Pest Infestation

Advice and assistance was given in 24 cases following complaints of infestation by flies, ants, woodworm and other insect pests.

Disinfestation treatment was carried out at 25 premises for the destruction of wasps' nests.

Disinfection

Disinfection was carried out in 3 cases following Infectious Disease.

River Water Samples

During the Summer months people frequent the banks and children in particular play in the shallow rivers and streams in the District, and in order to minimise any danger of infectious disease being contracted, swabs are placed in such water-courses and samples taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. No organisms of the typhoid group or other likely to convey disease were isolated from any of the swabs or samples.

Faeces Samples

In connection with enquiries into certain notified Infectious Diseases and suspected Food Poisoning, 269 visits were made and 106 samples collected and delivered to the Public Health Laboratory for examination.

7. RODENT CONTROL

For the administration of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, the Council maintains a Rodent Destruction Service, employing a Rodent Operator provided with a fully equipped light van.

Treatment for the destruction of rats and mice at private dwellings is carried out free of charge as a public service, but full charges are made for work on all other types of premises.

All premises and lands owned by the Council are regularly inspected and treated against rodent infestation.

Inspection of Premises

<u>Description of Premises</u>		<u>Total Visits</u>
1.	Private dwelling houses	3,506
2.	Business Premises	403
3.	Farm and Agricultural Premises	42
4.	Council Premises	76
5.	Refuse Tips	18
6.	Sewage Works	401
		<u>4,446</u>

Surface Treatments 1966

		Council Premises	Private Dwellings	Agricultural Premises	Business or other Premises	Total
Complaints received		3	344	2	57	406
Premises inspected		168	771	27	102	1,068
Infestations	Major*	0	0	0	0	0
Minor		61	465	3	45	574
Found Mice		0	19	0	9	28
Premises treated		61	484	3	54	602
Bodies Found	Rats	178	267	6	36	487
	Mice	0	33	0	10	43

*An infestation estimated to exceed ten rats is classed as a Major Infestation.

Sewer Treatments

The foul sewers in the various parishes in the District are regularly test-baited, and treated where necessary for rodent destruction by baiting in the manholes.

8. CLEAN AIR ACT - SMOKE CONTROL

Smoke Control Areas

Of no less importance than pure water, clean food and good environmental circumstances is the condition of the air we breath, for medical research shows that a polluted atmosphere is responsible for much ill-health and a high incidence of respiratory diseases such as bronchitis. In addition the deposit of soot and dirt from smoke laden air necessitates much more frequent cleaning, redecoration and repainting and is also responsible for the more rapid deterioration of the fabric of our houses and buildings.

Coal is an expensive commodity, both in its retail price and in terms of labour and the hazards of mining, and whereas it may be burned economically in properly designed industrial furnaces, in the ordinary open domestic fireplace, only approximately one third of its heat value is used, the rest being wasted up the chimney in flue gases and smoke. When coal is processed into solid smokeless fuel and burnt in properly designed appliances and firegrates, the available heat can rise to 80% and no heat wasted in the unburnt coal in the form of smoke.

Much of the electricity and gas supply is generated by the controlled burning and processing of coal, and even greater efficiency by way of heat out-put is obtained in the domestic use of these fuels.

Irrespective, therefore, of the smoke pollution aspect it does appear to be false economy to burn raw coal in domestic firegrates.

Realising the advantages of the use of smokeless fuels in domestic premises and the benefits of clean air, the Council as a Public Health Authority accepted the principle of the creation of Smoke Control Areas in the District, and drew up a programme whereby in the first stage, those parishes in the District on the periphery with the boundary of the City of Leicester should become Smoke Control Areas, to be contiguous with such Areas in the City.

In declaring such Areas by way of Smoke Control Orders the Council agreed to make a contribution of 70% of the cost of the approved necessary adaptation of firegrates in houses in such Areas to burn approved smokeless fuels, the Council to be eventually reimbursed of 40% from the National Exchequer. Thus the owner or occupier of any house in a Smoke Control Area may have his out-dated coal burning firegrates replaced by approved modern efficient appliances at a cost to himself of one third the cost of the installation.

Many of the owners of houses have taken advantage of this grant aid to install more expensive and sophisticated appliances, including partial or full central heating, and although in some cases the grant has been proportionately less than 70% of the total cost, nevertheless, it has been a useful contribution and has been appreciated by those who have desired to modernise the heating of their homes.

To date the Council has made four Smoke Control Orders, three being in operation and the fourth awaiting confirmation by the Minister of Housing and Local Government to come into operation in 1968.

No.	Area	In Force	No. of Houses	Other Premises	Acres
1	Eyres Monsell Estate, * Glen Parva	1st November 1962	1,634	4	176
2	East Lubbesthorpe Ward, Glen Parva	1st November 1963	209	3	78
3	North Ward (part) Glen Parva *	1st October 1966	396	9	95
4	North Ward (remainder) Glen Parva	1st July, 1968 (Proposed)	376	20	305

*Under Local Government Boundary Review this Area was transferred to City of Leicester on 1st April, 1966.

*Including 136 temporary bungalows exempted under the Order by reason of limited life under Planning, and also 26 houses which were transferred to Leicester on 1st April, 1966.

With the whole of that part of Glen Parva Parish bordering the City of Leicester being covered by Smoke Control Orders, a survey has been commenced in Braunstone, with a view to bringing part of that parish forward as a Smoke Control Area late in 1968 or in 1969.

Prior Approval

The advice and opinion of the Public Health Department is often sought by Architects and Engineers on proposed chimney heights, as under Section 10, Clean Air Act 1956, the Council may reject plans submitted under Building Byelaws if the chimney stack height is considered insufficient.

Also under the provisions of Section 3 of the Act notification must be given to the Council of intention to install any new furnace in any building other than in domestic premises.

Seven notifications were received of intention to install new furnaces including plans showing proposed new chimney heights. In two cases alterations were required for chimney heights to be increased.

Prior Approval was applied for in three cases and granted subject to stack heights being increased in the two cases.

Smoke from Garden Bonfires

Complaints are frequently received from residents of annoyance caused by smoke from neighbours' garden bonfires, and I set out position and attitude taken by the Public Health Department on such cases.

Irrespective of whether or not the premises are in a Smoke Control Area, under Section 16, Clean Air Act 1956, smoke from any such bonfire if it causes a nuisance to the inhabitants of the neighbourhood is deemed for the purposes of the Public Health Act to be a statutory nuisance, and action for abatement may be taken accordingly.

In a Smoke Control Area, it is an offence to burn any fuel other than approved smokeless fuels in any domestic firegrate, or any other fuel or material in any other premises except in approved appliances capable of being operated without the creation of smoke.

It is appreciated that difficulty is experienced by residents of houses with sizeable gardens, particularly in Smoke Control Areas with the disposal of garden refuse, but such difficulties can for the most part be overcome by the application of a little foresight, effort and commonsense.

Green soft garden refuse and domestic vegetable waste may either be buried or made into a compost heap, which as humus may be used to great advantage for the enrichment of the soil. The harder and woodier materials if allowed to dry may easily and rapidly be burnt without the creation of excessive smoke either in some form of garden incinerator, or as a simple bonfire, provided the materials are dry, and loosely packed to allow a sufficient supply of air for combustion. Again the resultant ash can be used with great benefit to the soil.

Most of the complaints arise from the excessive smoke emitted from slow burning garden fires where green and damp materials are heaped on in mass and allowed to smoulder for hours, polluting the air in the neighbourhood, and causing great annoyance to the neighbouring residents.

As stated, a little foresight effort and commonsense would keep both the air and the neighbours sweeter.

Measurement of Atmospheric Pollution

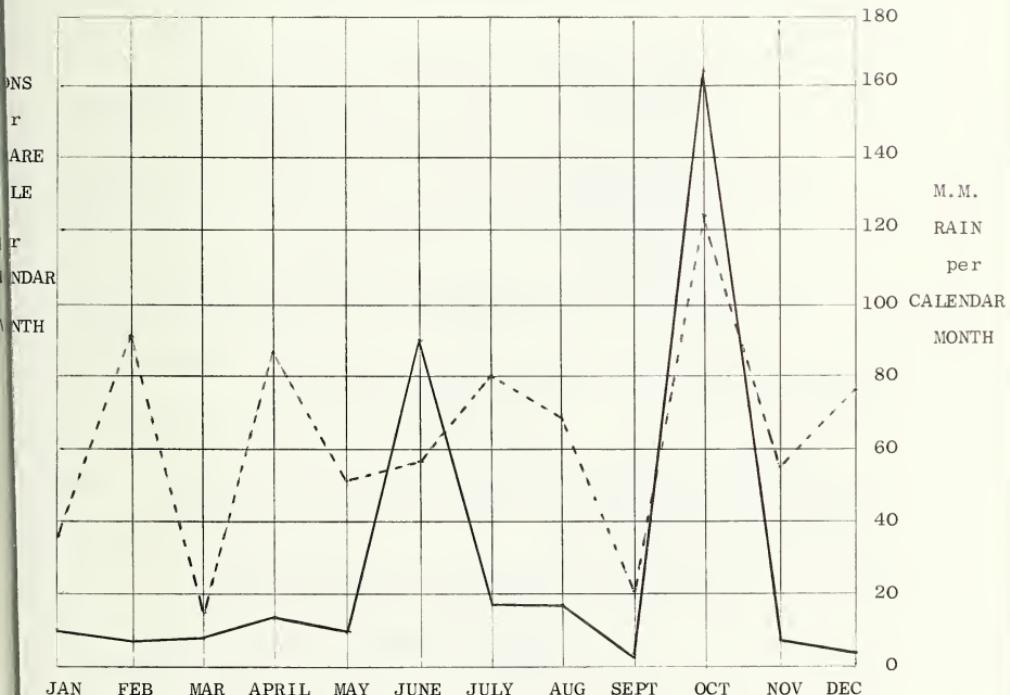
In order to obtain some indication of the degree of atmospheric pollution a Standard Deposit Gauge has been set up in that part of Glen Parva not yet a Smoke Control Area. The situation of the gauge is not ideal and there has been some distortion of the results by the deposit of extraneous vegetable matter particularly during the months of June and October. Nevertheless, the graph gives some indication of the monthly rainfall and the amount of polluting material brought down by the rain.

It will be noted that excluding distorted results from the month of June and the heavy deposits due principally to the exceptionally heavy rainfall in October, the amount of deposit averages about 10 tons per square mile per month, or approximately 120 tons sq./ml. per year.

Statistics show that this is above the average annual deposit from a typical suburban area and compares somewhat unfavourably with the average of 40 to 60 tons a year from a rural area more remote from towns and industry.

GRAPH showing RAINFALL and AMOUNT of DEPOSIT
per CALENDAR MONTH during 1966

Rainfall in millimetres - - - - -
Deposit in Tons per square mile —



INSPECTION OF FOOD SUPPLY

9. MILK SUPPLY

Dairies and Distribution

Although there are over one hundred dairy farms in the District, only 4 Producers retail their milk, most of the milk produced in the District being sent away to large dairies for pasteurisation.

Most of the milk retailed in the District is distributed by 4 large dairy firms.

The number of Distributors on the Register at the end of the year was:-

Producer-Retailers (milk produced in District)	4
Distributors (from premises in District)	3
Distributors (from Shops retailing bottled milk in District)	16
Distributors (from premises outside District)	5
<u>Total</u>	28

Satisfactory conditions were maintained in the 1 registered dairy in the District to which 4 visits were made.

Milk Samples

Samples of milk are regularly taken from milk supplies in the District and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk Samples

	Samples Taken	Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory
Designated {Untreated T.T. {Pasteurised	5	5	0
	9	9	0
TOTALS	14	14	0

Biological Examination of Milk Samples

Samples of milk are regularly taken from milk supplies, both produced and retailed in the District, and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for biological examination, to determine if any of the supplies are infected with *M. Tuberculosis* or *Brucella Abortus*.

Five samples were taken during the year and all found to be free from infection.

10. ICECREAM

No icecream is manufactured in the District, but 137 premises are registered for the sale of pre-packed icecream.

A large icecream distribution depot is situated in the District from which several icecream vans operate selling the soft variety of icecream, and in addition several similar vans come into the District from firms in adjoining districts.

Samples of icecream are regularly taken throughout the year, but principally during the Summer months, and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination.

Samples

Samples Taken	Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
*122	109	8	0	0

In addition 7 samples of Ice-Lollies were taken for examination - all of which were satisfactory.

*Five icecream tests were returned as void due to a breakdown in apparatus at the Laboratory.

11. MEAT INSPECTION

During the year 1,561 visits were made to the 8 slaughterhouses in the District, wherein 32,036 animals were slaughtered.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle exclu- ding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total Weight in lbs.
Number killed	9095	44	9	21617	1271	-
Number inspected	9095	44	9	21617	1271	-
All Diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerci						
Whole carcase condemned	5	1	1	18	0	4109
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	3429	12	3	1186	113	44970
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	37.7%	29.5%	44%	5.5%	8.8%	
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcases condemned	0	0	0	0	0	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	1	0	0	11	202
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.02%	2%	0	0	0.8%	
Cysticercosis						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	12	0	0	0	0	347
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	12	0	0	0	0	0
Generalised and totally condemned	0	0	0	0	0	0

Condemned Meat

Tuberculosis

Part or Offal	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Carcase Meat	2	-	-	-	-
Heads and Tongues	1	-	-	-	11
Lungs	-	-	-	-	-
Livers	1	-	-	-	-
Intestines	1	1	-	-	-

Other Diseases

Part or Offal	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
<u>Carcase and Offal</u>					
Uraemia	2	-	-	-	-
Oedema	-	-	-	6	-
Emaciation	-	-	1	.5	-
Pyaemia	2	-	-	2	-
Pyelonephritis	1	-	-	-	-
Septic Pneumonia	-	1	-	5	-
<u>Carcase Meat</u>					
Bruising	13	1	-	4	-
Abscesses	9	-	-	8	1
Oedema	2	-	-	9	-
Melanosis	1	-	-	-	-
Arthritis	-	-	-	1	-
Necrosis	1	-	-	-	-
<u>Heads and Tongues</u>					
Actinobacillosis	31	-	-	-	-
Actinomycosis	48	-	-	-	-
Abscesses	38	-	-	2	-
Parasitic	1	-	-	107	-
Cysticercosis	6	-	1	-	-
<u>Lungs</u>					
Pleurisy	444	-	-	15	10
Parasitic	2	-	-	749	-
Pneumonia	1	1	-	8	103
Abscesses	24	-	-	20	12
Contamination	299	1	-	-	-
<u>Livers</u>					
Abscesses	663	-	-	37	-
Fascioliasis	2277	3	-	398	-
Telangiectasis	16	2	-	-	-
Parasitic	34	-	-	392	3
Cloudy Swelling	4	-	-	4	1
Peritonitis	8	-	-	-	6
Cirrhosis	3	-	-	7	4
Fatty Degeneration	1	-	-	-	-
Melanosis	1	-	-	-	-
Necrosis	1	-	-	-	-
<u>Kidneys</u>					
Hydro-Nephrosis	15	-	-	-	-
Abscesses	9	-	-	-	-
Nephritis	12	-	-	2	-
Bruising	1	-	-	-	-
Contamination	6	-	-	-	-

continued overleaf

Part or Offal	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
<u>Hearts</u>					
Parasitic	10	-	-	270	-
Pericarditis	57	-	-	-	-
Cysticercosis	4	-	-	-	-
Abscesses	1	-	-	2	-
Myocarditis	2	-	-	-	-
<u>Spleens</u>					
Peritonitis	76	-	-	-	-
Abscesses	2	-	-	-	-
<u>Stomachs</u>					
Abscesses	4	-	-	-	-
Actinobacillosis	1	-	-	-	-
<u>Skirts</u>					
Pleurisy	6	-	-	-	-
Abscesses	9	-	-	-	-
Peritonitis	43	-	-	-	-
Cysticercosis	1	-	-	-	-
Blood Splashed	1	-	-	-	-
<u>Intestines</u>					
Johnes Disease	5	-	-	-	-
Abscesses	7	-	-	-	-
Contamination	1	-	-	-	-
Peritonitis	4	-	-	-	-
Actinobacillosis	1	-	-	-	-
<u>Udders</u>					
Mastitis	-	4	-	-	-

Slaughterhouses and Slaughtering

All the 8 private slaughterhouses in the District fully comply with the standards set out in the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations and the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations and have been licensed annually since the 'Appointed Day' for the District, 1st January, 1962, under the Slaughterhouses Act 1958.

One of these eight private slaughterhouses is a modern private abattoir at Whetstone, owned by a large wholesale meat distributing firm, all the fairly large output of meat therefrom being exported from the District.

Under the Meat Inspection Regulations 1963 the Council make charges for meat inspection based on the number of carcases inspected.

In my reports for previous years, I have commented strongly on the strain placed on the Public Health Inspectorate by meat inspection, particularly over the weekends and in the late evenings, with its detrimental effect on the other duties of the Department. The increased kill during 1966 principally at the large private abattoir at Whetstone necessitated a change in the rota system, one Inspector being required for full time meat inspection at Whetstone.

The following table shows the increase that has taken place in the last few years.

Animals Slaughtered in District

	1963	1964	1965	1966
Cattle	4,139	4,988	6,708	9,148
Sheep	10,356	14,935	15,253	21,617
Pigs	2,174	1,497	1,279	1,271
TOTALS	16,669	21,420	23,240	32,036

Although the pressure on the Department by reason of meat inspection increased during the year two factors emerged which should improve conditions in future.

In September the Public Health Committee gave consideration to The Meat Inspection (Amendment) Regulations 1966, which gave the Council certain powers to control the days and hours of slaughter, and after much consideration and deliberation decided in January 1967 to defer consideration of the making of any official Order for a period of six months to see if a tentative arrangement made between the proprietors of the eight slaughterhouses in the District and the Public Health Department would function satisfactorily.

The general arrangement was that Sunday slaughtering should be discontinued, and that slaughtering should finish not later than 6.0 p.m. on weekdays and 5.0 p.m. on Saturdays, to enable meat inspection throughout the District to be completed by 7.0 p.m. on weekdays and 6.0 p.m. on Saturdays.

Having considered the demands of meat inspection on the services of the Public Health Inspectorate in October the Committee recommended the appointment of an Authorised Meat Inspector for full-time duty. Such appointment was eventually made, the officer commencing his duties in February 1967.

Slaughter of Animals Act

Under the provisions of this Act, 31 licences have been issued to slaughtermen for the slaughtering of animals.

12. FOOD INSPECTION

Food Traders often call upon the Public Health Inspectors to give an opinion on the fitness of foodstuffs for human consumption and when an article of food is found to be unfit it is condemned and voluntarily surrendered for destruction.

Foods Condemned and Surrendered

	Weight (approx.)
8 tins milk pudding	8 lbs.
6 tins canned meat	5 lbs.
332 tins canned fruit	466 lbs.
85 tins canned vegetables	106 lbs.
37 tins canned fish	17 lbs.
1 tin canned jam	2 lbs.
79 packets frozen fish	36 lbs.
55 packets frozen vegetables	27 lbs.
72 packets frozen meat	31 lbs.
Total Weight	<u>698 lbs.</u>

Food Complaints

Nineteen complaints of the sale and purchase of unsatisfactory foodstuffs were brought to the attention of the Department, all were fully investigated, but in no case was the food actually produced or manufactured in the District.

The majority of the complaints were in respect of the presence of foreign material in the foodstuffs.

Commodity	Home Produced Food	Imported Food
Milk	2	-
Bread	6	-
Canned Meat	-	1
Meat Pie	1	-
Fruit	1	1
Cereals	2	-
Confectionery	2	-

Thorough investigations into all these cases were made including visits to the complainants and retailers, and interviews arranged with the wholesalers and representatives of the manufacturers concerned.

Having regard to all the circumstances eleven of these cases were dealt with informally to the complete satisfaction of the complainants, but it was considered necessary to make special reports to the Public Health Committee in respect of the four following cases.

1. Fruit pie filling, containing a piece of wire gauze. Full details of the comprehensive enquiry into this complaint were submitted, and it was decided not to prosecute but that a warning letter from the Council be sent to the manufacturers.
2. Bread, contaminated on the outside with foreign material. In this case it was also decided that a warning letter be sent.
3. Canned Steak, containing mineral grease. This canned product was imported from a Commonwealth Country, and in view of the Analyst's report the matter was taken up with the Importers for investigation at the canning factory.
4. Bread, a wrapped sliced loaf containing a bird's head. It was decided to prosecute in this case. The manufacturers pleaded guilty to the offence and a fine of £25 was imposed with costs.

It was felt necessary to submit three of these cases of contaminated foodstuffs to the Public Analyst for report.

The Public have become more conscious and concerned over the quality of purchased foodstuffs, and whereas in many cases the customer takes the article back to the shop for replacement or refund, there is an increasing tendency for purchasers of unsatisfactory foodstuffs to call in the Public Health Department.

In general this attitude is welcomed as it enables contact to be made not only with the retailers but also with wholesalers and manufacturers, and as a result greater endeavours are made to improve the control of the quality and marketing of foodstuffs.

It must be acknowledged that Food Manufacturers are most jealous of their reputation, and being conscious of the need to maintain the quality of their products generally take all precautions to ensure that their products are sold to the public in a satisfactory condition.

Unfortunately mishaps do occur during production, storage and exposure for sale, due to a variety of causes from breakdown of plant to lack of attention, and in some cases to pure negligence; in most cases it is the result of such failures that complaints are received by the Public Health Department of the sale of unsatisfactory articles of food.

Sampling under The Food and Drugs Act

The County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority for the administration of the Food and Drugs Act, and I am grateful to Mr. F.W. Arnold, Chief Inspector of the Public Control Department for supplying the following information on samples taken in the Blaby Rural District during the year.

<u>Commodity</u>	<u>No. of Samples</u>
<u>Foodstuffs</u>	
Milk	31
Apricots, dried	1
+Baby Food	1
+Beef, local fed	1
Butter	1
Chicken in Jelly	1
Cream	1
Gammon Ham	1
Ice Cream	18
Kipper Fillets	1
Liquorice Sherbet Dip	1
Marzipan	1
Meat Pie	1
Mustard	1
Orange Juice, concentrated	1
Peanuts, salted	1
Pineapple Juice	1
+Potatoes	1
Potato Crisp Seasonings	6
Rhubarb, canned	1
Sausages, Beef	1
Sausages, Liver	1
Sausages, Pork	4
Sausages, Pork, tomato flavoured	1
Scampi	1
Soft Drinks	2
Steak and Kidney Pies	2
<u>Beer, Wines and Spirits</u>	
Beer	1
Brandy	3
Gin	7
Rum	4
Vodka	3
Whisky	7
Wine	2
<u>Drugs and Medicines</u>	
Digestive Tablets	1
Halibut Liver Oil Capsules	1
Throat Pastilles	1
TOTAL	<u>114</u>

In addition to the samples listed, samples of milk originating in the Blaby Rural District were taken at receiving dairies in other areas.

The three samples marked + were submitted under the Pesticide Residues Scheme being operated for a period of two years by a consortium of local authorities. All three samples were reported to be satisfactorily free from pesticide residues.

The two samples of wine were so described on the menu at an unlicensed restaurant, but the labels on the respective bottles from which the samples were taken described the drink as "Alcohol-free" "Produced from fermented Rhine wine". The Public Analyst reported that the samples contained respectively 1.5 per cent. and 1.4 per cent. proof spirit. Upon receipt of this information the cafe proprietors were advised to discontinue any reference to the drink as "wine" and the importers were approached concerning the labelling. They forwarded a copy of a new label in which the term "non-alcoholic" had been substituted for "alcohol-free". It was considered that the term "non-alcoholic" was misleading in view of the alcohol content and the importers were advised that a more accurate statement for this commodity would be "Alcohol content less than 2 per cent. proof spirit", a view which was supported by the Public Analyst.

13. FOOD PREMISES

In general the standard of food premises in the District and the co-operation of occupiers in maintaining such standard is good. Due to constant usage and staff problems, deterioration does take place and by regular routine inspections endeavour is made to see such standards maintained. Many of the minor items are dealt with verbally at the time of visit, but where contravention of the Food Hygiene Regulations is found or works of improvement required, written notices are sent.

Inspection of Food Premises

	Visits	Notices Issued	Notices Complied
Dairies and Milkshops	15	0	0
Milk Vehicles	6	0	0
Bakehouses	9	1	0
Bakers Vans	9	0	0
Butchers Premises	26	2	4
Butchers Vans	37	0	0
Fried Fish Shops	25	1	2
Food Preparing Premises	16	1	1
Icecream Premises	166	3	3
Food Shops	204	50	43
Cafes, Canteens, Kitchens	95	6	6
Licensed Premises	136	26	19
Food Stores	7	1	1
Food Vehicles	138	6	6
	889	97	85

14. NOISE ABATEMENT

With the passing of the Noise Abatement Act 1960, there has been an increasing number of complaints by residents of annoyance by noise. The majority of such complaints, however, relate to noises which cannot be defined as statutory nuisances in respect of which formal action could be taken for abatement by the Council. Nevertheless, every complaint is investigated and informal measures employed in an endeavour to remove the grounds for complaint.

Seventeen complaints were received of annoyance from noise from the following sources.

Noise from Industrial Premises	2
Quarry working at night	2
Blasting at Stone Quarry	1
Noise from sewing machines etc. in houses	3
Motor vehicle repairs on domestic premises	3
Noise from lorries in early morning	2
Noise created by persons leaving car parks of public buildings	2
Chimes from Icecream Sales Vans	1
Factory fire alarm ringing at night	1

In the cases of noise from Industrial Premises, modifications were carried out to the plant and the noise reduced to an acceptable level.

The use of industrial sewing machines for outwork in connection with the shoe and hosiery manufacture in domestic premises often gives rise to complaints from the residents of adjoining houses. A persuasive approach generally succeeds in removing such grounds for complaint by the re-siting and insulating of the machine.

15. HOUSING

Information relating to the erection of new houses, Council houses, occupied dwellings and rehousing has been obtained from the Architect and Surveyor, the Rating Department of the Treasurer and from the Housing Section of the Clerk's Department.

HOUSES IN DISTRICT

Total Number of Occupied Houses	21,277
Total Number of Council Houses	2,383

NEW HOUSES

	Council	Private Enterprise	Total
Houses completed during year	117	1,100	1,217
Houses in course of erection at end of year	176	720	896
Number of Post-War houses completed	1,914	9,623	11,537

COUNCIL HOUSE APPLICATIONS

Number of Applicants on List at end of year	399
Number of New Applications during year	215

INSPECTION OF HOUSES during year

Houses inspected for housing defects	336
Inspections made for such purpose	730
Houses inspected and recorded under	
Housing Consolidated Regulations	164
Houses found to be unfit for habitation	73

CLEARANCE AREAS

Official Representations were made in respect of 4 Clearance Areas during 1966.

BLABY - Welford Road/Sycamore Street	C.A. No. 24 - 5 houses
ENDERBY - Mill Hill	C.A. No. 25 - 7 houses
ENDERBY - Conery Lane	C.A. No. 26 - 12 houses
WHETSTONE - High Street/King Street	C.A. No. 27 - 16 houses

A Compulsory Purchase Order was made in respect of the Blaby C.A. No. 24, and Clearance Orders in respect of the other three Areas.

No appeals were made in respect of the four Orders all of which were subsequently confirmed by the Minister without modification.

Sixty houses were demolished and 10 families comprising 27 persons were rehoused in 1966 from eight previously confirmed Clearance Areas.

INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES

Reports were made in respect of 33 unfit houses and subsequent action taken under the provisions of Section 16, Housing Act 1957 during the year, resulting in -

10 Demolition Orders

17 Closing Orders

being made, and 6 Undertakings being given.

	Houses	Families Rehoused during year	Persons Displaced during year
Demolished during year	20	11	24
Closed during year	14	15	48
Total	34	26	72

SLUM CLEARANCE

The progress of Slum Clearance over the past twelve years is shown in the following table -

YEAR	HOUSES REPRESENTED			HOUSES DEMOLISHED		CLOSED	TOTAL
	CLEAR- ANCE AREAS	INDIVI- DUAL UNFIT	TOTAL	CLEAR- ANCE AREAS	INDIVI- DUAL UNFIT	INDIVI- DUAL UNFIT	
1955	24	21	45	0	4	21	25
1956	26	28	54	9	17	19	45
1957	9	25	34	8	17	15	40
1958	0	43	43	29	23	15	67
1959	27	61	88	13	9	23	45
1960	26	34	60	0	60	6	66
1961	15	20	35	12	19	13	44
1962	0	21	21	56	43	5	104
1963	29	27	56	8	26	10	44
1964	53	22	75	0	29	14	43
1965	0	21	21	19	20	3	42
1966	40	33	73	60	20	14	94
TOTAL	249	356	605	214	287	158	659

REPAIR OF HOUSES

Informal Action

Unfit or defective houses rendered fit as result of informal action.

23

Statutory Action

1)	Public Health Acts	9
	Houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	
2)	Housing Act	3
	Houses made fit after service of formal notices (Sections 9 - 16 H.A. 1957)	

RECONDITIONING OF HOUSES

Housing Acts 1949 - 1964

Improvement (Discretionary) Grant Scheme

At the discretion of the Council grants up to £400 may be made to help owners to improve houses up to the following standard.

- (a) be in a good state of repair and substantially free from damp;
- (b) have each room properly lighted and ventilated;
- (c) have an adequate supply of wholesome water laid on in the dwelling;
- (d) be provided with efficient and adequate means of supplying hot water for domestic purposes;
- (e) have an internal water closet, if practicable, otherwise a readily accessible outside water closet;
- (f) have a fixed bath or shower in a bathroom;
- (g) be provided with a sink, or sinks, and with suitable arrangements for the disposal of waste water;
- (h) have a proper drainage system;
- (i) be provided in each room with adequate points for gas or electric lighting (where reasonably available);
- (j) be provided with adequate facilities for heating;
- (k) have satisfactory facilities for storing, preparing and cooking food; and
- (l) have proper provision for storing fuel (where required).

Applications for Grants received during year

from owner/occupiers	5
owners of tenanted houses	11
Total	16

Number of applications approved	20
Number of applications refused	2
Number of houses reconditioned during year with Discretionary Improvement Grants	20

Standard Grant Scheme

Grants are also made by the Council for the improvement of houses by the provision of standard amenities up to £155, but in some cases where it is necessary to carry out additional works to provide such amenities the grant may be increased to a maximum of £350.

Such standard amenities are the provision of

- 1) a fixed bath or shower in a bathroom (Max. Grant £25)
- 2) a wash hand basin (Max. Grant £5)
- 3) a hot and cold water supply
 - (i) at a fixed bath or shower
 - (ii) at a wash hand basin (Max. Grant £75)
 - (iii) at a sink
- 4) an inside water closet (Max. Grant £40)
- 5) a satisfactory food store (Max. Grant £10)

Applications for Standard Grants received:-

from owner/occupiers	103
from owners of tenanted houses	20

Number of houses improved during the year with Standard Grants	88
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IMPROVEMENT AREAS

Under the provisions of the Housing Act 1964, if the Council are satisfied that any area in the District contains dwellings without one or more of the standard amenities (i.e. a fixed bath or shower with hot and cold water supply; wash basin and sink with hot and cold water supply; a water closet; and a satisfactory food store), and that at least half the dwellings in such area are so constructed that it is practicable to improve them to such standard and after they are so improved they will be fit and available for habitation for at least 15 years, they may cause the area to be defined on a map and pass a resolution declaring the area to be an Improvement Area.

Having declared such an Area, statutory action is taken to require all tenanted houses to be brought up to the standard, and endeavours made to persuade all owner/occupiers of houses in such area voluntarily to install such extra amenities with the aid of a Standard Improvement Grant.

After considering a report on a possible area in Kirby Muxloe comprising 100 houses in Barwell Road, Castle Road and Church Road, in November 1966 the Housing Committee decided that as a pilot scheme such area should be taken as an Improvement Area.

In passing the formal resolution in January 1967 the Council became the first Council in the County, other than the City, to implement the provisions of Part II, Housing Act 1964 in the declaration of an Improvement Area.

Rent Act 1957

Five applications were received from tenants for Certificates of Disrepair under this Act.

Undertakings to carry out the specified repairs were received from the Landlords in all five cases. In one case, however, as the works were not carried out within the statutory period of six months it was deemed that a Certificate of Disrepair had been issued.

16 RESIDENTIAL CARAVANS

Under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960 there were the following licensed sites in the District in 1966.

Single caravan sites	-	11
Two caravan site	-	1
Four caravan site	-	1
Forty caravan site	-	1

in addition to the Council caravan site at Countesthorpe with 10 caravans thereon.

At the newly licensed site for 40 caravans replacing the former licensed site for 13 caravans at Littlethorpe, by the end of the year only half the site was complete and 20 caravans stationed thereon, but all facilities including washroom and shower accommodation were provided. A proposal was pending to increase the area of the second half of the site to accommodate 30 caravans to make an eventually completed site for 50 caravans.

The actual number of caravans stationed on licensed sites at the end of the year was 43.

Itinerant Caravanners

Considerable nuisance and annoyance to residents was caused during 1966 by an influx of itinerants into the District. Many of these were formally squatting on unlicensed sites in the adjoining City of Leicester, and as these sites became fenced off they moved out into the County.

These itinerants are mainly dealers in scrap materials, stationing their caravans on roadside verges and collecting scrap with their lorries from the adjacent City and Urban areas; this they sort out on the roadside, in some cases even burning out old motor cars for the recovery of metals. Although the majority possess modern well-equipped caravans they exercise little or no care in the disposal of waste matters, fouling the verges and adjacent fields, and when eventually they depart they leave the roadside site covered with littered materials.

Whereas certain control may be exercised by the Council under the provisions of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act with regard to the stationing of caravans on private land, unfortunately the Council has no such powers with respect to roadside verges. The County Council has in force a byelaw whereby action may be taken in respect of such stationing of caravans upon a complaint being made by a resident living within a distance of 300 yards of the site, and the Police Authority has certain powers of removal under the Highways Act, but it would appear that such powers present some difficulty in enforcing.

Throughout the Country these itinerants present a social problem which has been the subject of two circulars to Local Authorities from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, one in February 1962 and the latest in June 1966, suggesting the setting up of permanent sites, and a sub-committee has been set up by the County Council to consider the situation.

Over the past ten or more years there have been five families of itinerants who may be considered as almost regular inhabitants of the District and who have co-operated reasonably well in causing the least possible annoyance and to whom some consideration ought to be given to enable them to settle on a suitable site.

In addition there would also appear to be a need for a site to accommodate short stay caravanners, such as the travelling salesmen, maintenance men, and others engaged in small contract work such as tar-macadaming etc.

On the other hand the groups of itinerants who moved into the District in 1966 were most difficult to control, caused considerable annoyance to local residents, would not co-operate or conform to any discipline, and on leaving left the roadside sites in a deplorable condition; the provision of any site to accommodate such type of itinerant would present considerable problems with space set aside for their lorries and scrap-sorting activities, and unless a change could be brought about in their social behaviour, the establishment of such a site would undoubtedly cause annoyance to local residents, and might result in a depreciation in the value of local property.

17. THE OFFICES, SHOPS and RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

In connection with the administration of this Act further inspections of Offices and Shops were carried out during the year, in all 169 visits being made.

Whereas no serious breach of the regulations was found, informal notices were issued in respect of 129 minor contraventions.

CLASS OF PREMISES	Number Registered	Number Employed		
		M.	F.	Total
Offices	23	142	137	279
Retail Shops	157	238	271	509
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	6	32	0	32
Catering Establishments Canteens	24	121	87	208
Fuel Storage Depots	1	9	9	9
TOTALS	211	542	495	1,037

Analysis of Contraventions

Section	Number of Contraventions found	Section	Number of Contraventions Found
4	Cleanliness	5	13
5	Overcrowding	0	Sitting facilities
6	Temperature	1	Seats (Sedentary Workers)
7	Ventilation	1	Eating Facilities
8	Lighting	1	Floors, passages, stairs
9	Sanitary Conveniences	0	Fencing exposed parts
10	Washing facilities	1	machinery
11	Supply of Drinking Water	0	Protection of young persons
12	Clothing Accommodation	0	from dangerous machinery
		19	Training of young persons
		23	working at dangerous
		24	machinery
		50	Prohibition of heavy work
			First Aid
			General Provisions
			Information for Employees
			114
		TOTAL	129

Reported Accidents

Two minor accidents were reported, one in a retail provision shop where an assistant damaged her wrist lifting goods, and the other in a large catering establishment when a storeman dropped a heavy article injuring his foot.

18. HAIRDRESSING ESTABLISHMENTS

Byelaws are in operation made by the Council under the Public Health Act for securing cleanliness in hairdressers and barber's premises.

In general the 33 premises in the District are maintained in a satisfactory condition, one notice being sent during the year requiring improvement.

19. SWIMMING BATHS

Although there are no public swimming baths in the District, swimming pools have now been built at two County Schools, Enderby - Brockington and Braunstone - Winstanley. The public do not have a direct use of such swimming pools, but in addition to the school children, several organisations connected with the schools and Community Colleges have the use after school hours.

Regular checks are made of the swimming bath water to ensure the correct degree of chlorination.

20. PET SHOPS and ANIMAL BOARDING

Two shops where pet animals are offered for sale are licensed under the Pet Animals Act 1951, and 8 premises where dogs and cats are boarded licensed under the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963.

All premises are maintained up to the recommended standards.

21. PETROLEUM

All places where petroleum spirit and inflammable petroleum-based mixtures are stored are controlled by the Council by the issue of annual licences under the Petroleum Act and Regulations.

The Council subscribes to the Association for Petroleum Acts Administration, an organisation set up in an endeavour to secure uniformity in the application of the Code of Principles of Construction and Licensing Conditions issued by the Home Office relating to petroleum installations.

Tests were applied to 14 petrol tanks during the year and 218 visits were made to petroleum installations.

Eighty-four licences were issued in respect of installations at 34 petrol filling stations, storage of petrol at 41 other premises and for petroleum mixtures only at 9 premises.

22. FACTORIES

Although a Rural District in addition to agriculture and horticulture, there are a considerable number of industries in the various parishes.

PARISH											
Aston	Flamville	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blaby		4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Braunstone		-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	20
Cosby		1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	10
Countesthorpe		4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Croft		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
Elmesthorpe		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Enderby		4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Glenfields		1	1	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	10
Glen Parva		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Huncote		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Kilby		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Kirby Muxloe		1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Leicester	} Forest West	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Lubbesthorpe		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Narborough		3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	10
Potters Marston		-	-	-	-	-	4	3	-	-	10
Sapcote		-	1	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	10
Sharnford		-	-	-	-	-	4	2	-	-	10
Stoney Stanton		-	1	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	10
Thurlaston		-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	10
Whetstone		1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	10
Wigston Parva		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
TOTAL		19	6	1	11	2	2	1	1	1	10
											185

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health
in Respect of the Year 1966 for the Rural
District of Blaby in the County of Leicester

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration
of the Factories Act 1937 - 1959

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	0	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	178	155	8	0
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	5	5	0	0
TOTAL	183	160	8	0

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Reme- died (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	0	0	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	0	0	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	0	0	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	0	0	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	0	0	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	7	6	-	3	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	0	0	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	0	0	-	-	-
TOTAL	8	7	0	3	0

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing apparel	155	-	-	-	-	-
etc.						
Cleaning and	-	-	-	-	-	-
Washing						
Plastics	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	155	-	-	-	-	-

Outworkers - August Return 1966

Nature of Work	Outworkers employed by firms in District	Outworkers employed by firms outside District
Wearing Apparel		
Hosiery	7	104
Boots and Shoes	5	13
Knitwear	0	8
Gloves	0	1
Clothing	0	17
Plastics	0	0
TOTAL	12	143
TOTAL		155

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